

**Chaplin Senior Center**

**Board of Directors**

**132 Chaplin Street**

**Chaplin, CT 06235**

The Board of Directors for the Chaplin Senior Center met for its regular meeting on Tuesday, **September 6, 2022**, in the Library conference room.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, Karl Linkkila, Shirley Rakos, Ann Lewis, Crystal Gebhardt, and Ellen Gillon; alternates Robin Hoagland and Janice Godaire; Director Lisa Kegler, and Victoria Northrop (recording clerk).

- 1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.** Robin Hoagland was seated for Walt Zlotnick and Janice Godaire was seated for Jeanette Haines.
- 2. Audience for Citizens:** None present.
- 3. Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of August 2, 2022 were approved unanimously after a motion was initiated by Ellen and seconded by Janice.
- 4. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:** None

**5. Director's Report:**

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$35,111.87
- b. Cash on Hand: \$197.25
- c. Membership: 359
- d. Dues collected: \$2335.50

Lisa mentioned that the cost of providing meals is rising and that the Board needs to clarify whether one needs to be a member to buy a meal. The Board discussed the re-enactment of the two-tier pricing system @ \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members that existed before the pandemic and discussed affordability of the meals and whether members on a fixed income would continue to be able to afford the meals if the prices were raised slightly in order to accommodate the rising costs for purchasing the food. Lisa said that the Senior Center already does discreetly grant some lunches *gratis* to members who are particularly in need of financial assistance, and that some members generously pay-it-forward by covering the costs of more than one meal when they pay. After some discussion, Irene put forward a motion that, as of October, the cost of meals be raised for members to \$6 and for non-members to \$8. Ann Lewis seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Lisa says that the Bicentennial parade float, which will be decorated with a patriotic theme and feature a bubble machine and members doing various activities, will need final assembly before the Bicentennial parade on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Crystal

volunteered to help set up the booth at Garrison Park for the Bicentennial event that morning to ease some of Lisa's burden. Lisa mentioned that memoir books would be sold as well. A Medicare informational discussion will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September with Longview's Ken Huff for the seniors.

Lisa mentioned that she has downloaded the manual for the massage chair and discussed with the massage therapist sanitizing/protecting the chair and has also looked into preparing the waiver for the chair users which is similar to that for massage therapy. Irene suggested fitted sheets provided by the users as an alternative to antimacassars and sanitizing spray. The chair also raised the issue of insufficient electrical sockets in the multi-purpose room. The Board discussed how the rewiring could be undertaken and where the costs for addition of sockets might be sourced (whether from the maintenance budget line, the special revenue fund, or from the town). Before the Board will decide on the funding source, Lisa will obtain some estimates from electricians for the job.

Irene mentioned that a test kit for the picture hanging will come from Amazon to give everyone a better indication of how well it will work for the picture gallery/exhibition. For the art exhibits, the Board discussed how the artists will be chosen – preference will initially be given to local Chaplin artists who are members of the center, then will go forward. Ellen and Victoria volunteered to help with an ad hoc subcommittee to help jury artists for the venue and potential shows. Victoria volunteered to contact Ann Chuk, Peggy Church, and Cathy Smith as local seniors who have knowledge of local artists who may be interested in having a show at the center. She will wait until after the Bicentennial is over before reaching out.

**6. Affordable Housing Grant:**

The affordable housing grant has expired, and the remaining funds after expenditure for the NECOG plan have been returned to the state, as no extension was given.

Irene still intends to prepare a short survey about affordable/senior housing for the town.

**7. Guidelines for the Use of the Multi-function Room:**

At the August meeting, the Board reviewed the existing guidelines for the use of the Multi-function Room in the Senior Center and Irene asked for the Board members to think about any input or changes they might like to see in the future. While she received no input in the interim, at today's meeting the members discussed that the no-alcohol rule needed to be modified for the paint-and-sip and any wine and cheese that might be served at gallery openings or memorials. Robin made a motion that alcohol be allowed at the Senior Center's discretion and Ann Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** October 4, 2022 @ 10 a.m.

- 9. Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.  
Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk